Expanding the Selfie- *Who is I?*

For this assignment, you will make 5 self-portraits consider the complicated nature of how identity is constructed.

A self-portrait can have many goals; realism, truth, the emotional, the psychological. They can be naturalistic or fantastical, causing the viewer consider identity, personhood and questions of existence. The actual self need not be there. Isolate an approach and procedure with gusto.

Approaches you might consider:

1. Create a series of self-portraits that attempt to describe your true nature using light.
(think Lee Friedlander, Vivian Maier)

2. Create portraits of an alternate person, a caricature, a historical figure, someone imagined.
(think Cindy Sherman, Albrect Durer, Frida Kahlo)

3. Create a series of images that use objects, events, or traces to express something about you.
(think Carrie Mae Weems, Lorna Simpson)

4. Create universal imagery: yourself as all humans, you as an icon.
(think Robert and ShanaPark-Harrison, Tuen Hocks)

Please do consider how your images relate as a cohesive group. Think about the series a visual story, a collection of sorts.

PROCEDURE:

I. Starting **Wednesday January 13** - I want you to make a unique self-portrait each day for the following five days.
II. This one shot should be a selection from a shoot (minimum of 12+ shots).
III. Upload your selected image to Instagram tagged with the handle #expandaselfie #expandaselfie3 and a tag of for the day #selfieportraitday1 #selfieportraitday2 ...etc
IV. Shoot in RAW using Photoshop/Lightroom to process them

1 ***For next class*** *read* ***Selfie Readings (sidebar).*** *Take the time to read through those 3 short readings (ignore the the first page or so which is the original French document of Daguerre's announcement). Bring on Thurs a printed half-page reflection on Baudelaire's poetic reflection and use or uselessness of self images. "From that moment our squalid society rushed, Narcissus to a man, to gaze at its trivial image on a scrap of metal. A madness, an extraordinary fanaticism took possession of all these new sunworshippers."*

Is there a place for the self in image making? Is focusing on the self dangerous? problematic? A-ok?

3 *In your sketchbook, digital environment sketch a series of schemes for self portraits or make a list of visual ideas that you want to work from. Also locate a photographer/artist (professional with accolades, a website would be nice) that you admire or are inspired by.*

2 *On* ***Wed. January 20th*** *- bring an external hard drive with all of your RAW shooting up to that*

point so that we can begin working in Lightroom.